**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION AND CONSENT FORM**

**PROJECT TITLE: Understanding Transgender Violence**

Project Director: Alicia Telena; Department of Sociology; University of Montana; Missoula, MT 59812; Phone: (406) 465-7881; email: Alicia.Telena@umconnect.umt.edu

Advisor: Celia Winkler; Department of Sociology; University of Montana; Missoula, MT 59812; (406) 243-5843; email: celia.winkler@umontana.edu

Special Instructions to the potential subject: This consent form may contain words that are new to you. If you read any words that are not clear to you, please ask one of the researchers to explain them to you.

**Introduction/Purpose:**

This research study is focused on understanding how transgender individuals interpret and respond to violence. You are being asked to participate in this study because you are part of the transgender community. The purpose of this research is to better understand how people interpret and respond to the situation.

**Procedures:**

You will be asked to answer questions during an interview, which will be personal in nature. The interview will take about two to three hours and will be conducted in one or more visits at a place of your choosing and a time that is convenient for you. The interview will be audio recorded with your permission. If you decide that you want the audio recorder shut off or do not want me to use it, the recorder will not be used. At any time throughout the interview, you have the option to stop the interview and not go further. If you choose to stop the interview, the information collected from you previously can be used only if you agree to it. Otherwise, no information collected will be used for the study.

**Risks:**

There should be no physical risk to you but some emotional risks may appear. There may be personal questions that might cause you to feel uncomfortable and emotionally upset. If any of these questions are too personal, you can choose to not answer the questions and still continue the interview. If at any time you need a break, you can take a break from the interview and once you are ready, the interview can continue.

If you need to speak with anyone about the topics brought up you can contact:

National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-787-3224

GLBT National Hotline 1-888-THE-GLNH (1-888-843-4564)

GLBT Hate Crimes Hotline 1-800-686-HATE

National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) Legal Helpline 1.800.528.6257

National LGBT Youth Hotline 1-800-246-PRIDE

National Suicide Prevention Helpline 1-800-273-TALK

Peer Listening Line for LGBT Youth 1-800-399-PEER

The Trevor Lifeline 866 4-U-TREVOR (866 488 7386)

**At any time throughout the interview, you can withdraw.**

**Benefits:**

By participating in this research, you may help increase our understanding of how people within the transgender community interpret and respond to violence. In addition, you may play a role in offering information to policy makers who can enact laws to protect the transgender community. You may also help service providers understand what the transgender community faces each day. You will also have a chance to tell your story and show others through your story that the transgender community is a strong community that is facing discrimination. Your story may show others that the transgender community is human and should be protected like every other community.

**Confidentiality:**

All of the information, except identifying information, obtained throughout the interview can be used in the final project unless you state that you would like the information excluded. Code names will be used throughout the interview and the project, instead of actual names, to protect your identity. In addition, other identifying characteristics like the location of the project will be disguised in the final write up to protect your identity.

**Limits of Confidentiality:**

There are conditions under which confidentiality may be broken. State and federal laws might require that we contact the authorities.

**Centralized data collection:**

During this interview, a tape recorder will be used with your permission to make sure the information is accurate. If there is a time that you would like to talk about something without the tape recorder, you have the right to ask that it be turned off while you talk about the subject. Once the transcription is finished and the project is over, the tape will be destroyed.

**Financial Information:**

There will be no financial cost to you during this interview and there will be no payment for participating in the interview.

**Subject's Rights:**

You have the right to withdraw from this study and your participation is to be voluntary. If at any time throughout the interview questions arise that you do not want to answer, you have the right to say no and not answer the question. You also can request a copy of the final results.

**Voluntary Participation/Withdrawal:**

Please understand that your participation is entirely voluntary and you have the right to withdraw your consent or discontinue participation at any time without penalty. You have the right to refuse to answer questions without consequence.

**Contact Persons:**

Any questions that you have about this study or your rights as a subject may be directed to Alicia Telena at (406) 465-7881 or by email at Alicia.Telena@umontana.edu. You can also contact my faculty supervisor Celia Winkler by phone at (406) 243-5843 or by email at celia.winkler@umontana.edu. If you have any questions regarding your rights as a research subject, you may contact the Chair of the IRB through the University of Montana Research Office at 243-6670.

**Statement of Consent:**

I have read the above description of this research study. I have been informed of the risks and benefits involved, and all my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. Furthermore, I have been assured that the principal investigator will also answer any future questions I may have. I voluntarily agree to take part in this study. I understand I will receive a copy of this consent form.

**Statement of Consent to be Audiotaped:**

I understand that audio recordings may be taken during the study with my consent. I understand that audio recordings will be destroyed following transcription, and that no identifying information will be included in the transcription.

**Statement of Consent for Telephone Interview:**

I understand that the interview will be conducted over the phone. The researcher has read the consent form to me over the phone and answered all of my questions. I voluntarily agree to take part in this study.